

REMARKS

In the Office Action,¹ claims 1, 2, and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,510,518 to Jaffe et al. ("Jaffe"); claims 3-13 and 20 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims; and claims 14-18 were allowed.

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 14-18. By this amendment, Applicant has canceled claims 1, 2, and 19, without prejudice or disclaimer; amended claim 3 to include elements of now-canceled claims 1 and 2; and amended claim 20 to include elements of now-canceled claim 19. In light of the following remarks, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner's timely reconsideration and allowance of currently pending claims 3-18 and 20.

Claims 1, 2, and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Jaffe and claims 3-13 and 20 stand objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of claims 1, 2, and 19. However, to expedite prosecution, Applicant has canceled claims 1, 2, and 19, without prejudice or disclaimer, has

¹ The Office Action contains statements reflecting characterizations of the related art and the claims. Regardless of whether any such statement is identified herein, Applicant declines to automatically subscribe to any statement or characterization in the Office Action.

amended claim 3 to include elements of now-canceled claims 1 and 2, and has amended claim 20 to include elements of now canceled claim 19. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that amended independent claims 3 and 20 are allowable. Applicant further submits that claims 4-12, which depend from allowable claim 3, are therefore also allowable at least by virtue of their dependency from an allowable claim.

Conclusion

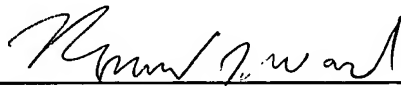
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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